

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001587

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. ⁷: C12Q 1/68, C12N 5/06, 5/08, G01N 33/53

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

See electronic databases

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

See electronic databases

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WPIDS CA MedLine:cervix/cervical/papsmear, fetal/foetal/embryonic cells, trophoblast, enrich/isolate/select/separate

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P,X	WO 2004/076653 A1 (THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND) 10 September 2004	All
X	WO 2003/020986 A1 (MONASH UNIVERSITY and MONASH IVF) 13 March 2003	All
X	WO 1996/017085 A1 (THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY) 6 June 1996	All
X	Holzgreve W et al. Fetal cells in cervical mucus and maternal blood. Baillière's Clinical Obstetrics and Gynaecology, 2000. 14(4): 709-722	All



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C



See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search
21 January 2005Date of mailing of the international search report
28 JAN 2005Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU
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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	Kingdom J et al. Detection of trophoblast cells in transcervical samples collected by lavage or cytobrush. Obstets and Gynaecol, 1995. 86(2): 283-88.	All
X	Schueler et al. Enrichment and identification of fetal trophoblast cells from first trimester maternal cervical lavage and uterine blood specimens. Placenta, 2001. 22: 688-701.	All
X	Adinolfi M et al. Fetal cells in transcervical samples at an early stage of gestation. J Hum Genet, 2001. 46 (3): 99-104.	All

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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☒ Claims Nos.: Part claims 1-22, 24-42
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
Search has been limited to isolation and genetic analysis of foetal cells taken from the maternal cervix, as the specification does not provide adequate support for claims to isolation and analysis of other cell types originating from the same or other parts of the body.

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001587

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report	Patent Family Member
WO 2004/076653	AU 20030313
WO 2003/020986	CA 2459725
	EP 1434887
WO 1996/17085	US 19980512
	WO 19960606
Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.	
END OF ANNEX	